

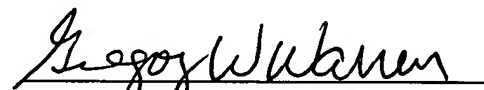
REMARKS

Claims 28-41 were pending in the instant application. Claims 30-33 and 37-40 have been cancelled. Claims 28, 29 and 35 have been amended. Claims 42-59 have been added. Claims 28 and 35 were amended to recite that the mature enzyme has protoporphyrinogen oxidase (protox) activity, to identify a sequence in the sequence listing, and indicate amino acid substitutions in the mature enzyme when compared to a naturally occurring enzyme, as required by the Office Action at page 2. Support for the amendment may be found in the claims as filed and in the specification, for example at pages 24-39 and Table 1A. Claim 29 was amended to delete an extra space between the words "said" and "mature." Support for new claim 42-59 may be found throughout the specification, for example at pages 24-39 and Table 1A.

No new matter has been added. Accordingly, entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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